

## Support for carers

It was pleasing to see the plight of family carers being highlighted by Paula's story ("Carer's plea for understanding", *Leader*, October 9).

Carers Week (October 14-20) is a fitting time to recognise carers and validate their vital role in our community.

Anyone, any time, can become a carer and we think it is important for your readers to know there is local support available for carers in the shire.

Sutherland Shire Carer Support Service (SSCSS) Inc has been operating since 1996.

The service offers information, emotional support, a quarterly newsletter, support groups, training, special events and retreats to people who are looking after a family member or friend with a disability, frailty due to age or chronic illness.

These activities help reduce carers' sense of

isolation and enable them to access accurate information and services to assist them on "the carer journey", which Paula described.

We encourage carers living in Sutherland Shire to contact us on 9542 6292 or visit [sscss.org.au](http://sscss.org.au) for more information.

**Tracy Sami  
manager**

**Sutherland Shire Carer Support Service Inc**

## Road closure not the answer

Rather than close Box Road to through traffic at Port Hacking Road (*Leader*, October 9) the recent council report should conclude the success of the through-flow.

Forcing vehicles back to Bellingara Road or The Boulevarde et alia in order to access Sylvania Waters sporting, club, residences or commercial facilities would merely cater for some locals who have the NIMBY approach to

everything. Average speed has been reduced, there is no significant rise in accidents, 84 per cent of the 683 local residents and businesses in 2010 favoured the through-flow and thousands since have benefited from the decision.

Why would council even consider opposing this most successful traffic decision of the former RTA after extensive consultation?

I do not use this access to travel to the city. I do use it for the convenience of visiting families, sporting grounds and business.

The roads minister needs to allow roads to be used for the purpose of travel and not view some as private access roads for the privileged few who would prefer to have no cars use roads except for their own families' convenience.

**Brian Rayner  
Gynea**

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